

A system of sale of postal stamps and stationery through stores is in existence from 1969.

(b) In this system postal stamps and stationery are sold through licensed agents for which they are paid a commission of 1.5% on sales. departmental stores, Super markets, Drug Stores and other stores, situated at a distance of not less than 150 yards from the nearest post office, can have the license. The licensee is not allowed more than Rs. 500/- in stamps in a day.

Committees/Boards Re-Constituted by Chandigarh Administration

2903. SHRI PAWANKUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chandigarh Administration has constituted/re-constituted some Advisory Committees, Boards and Corporations etc. since July this year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with their constitution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Screening of Video Cassettes at Parlours

2904. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total yearly revenue earned by the Government from the screening of Video Cassettes at Parlours and at home;

(b) the revenue earned from the screening of Cassettes at Home through Cable TVs and in air conditioned buses and hotels;

(c) whether the net collections from the Cinema Theatres in India have come down due to Video Exhibition and Cable TVs; and

(d) if so, the steps Government is contemplating to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) and (b). The scheme of the legislative powers of the States and the Union Government gives complete powers to the State Governments in the matter of entertainment tax for exhibition of films. No statistical information about the revenue of State Governments from screening of video cassettes at Parlours, Homes, Air-conditioned buses, hotels, and also through cable TVs, is collected and maintained by the Union Government in the Ministry of information and Broadcasting.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have no statistics on the net collections from the Cinema Theaters in India as it is a State subject. However, the Government is seized of the problems the film industry is facing due to Video Piracy, Cable TV Networks etc.,

The Central Government has instructed the State Government to effectively enforce the provisions of the Copyright Act, 1957 as amended from time to time, which are considered to be adequate, through creation of Special Police Cells for investigation of copyright offences, bringing Video Parlours and Shops under a licensing regime, giving necessary powers for enforcement to Entertainment Tax recovery agencies, collecting crime statistics of copyright offences exclusively etc.